

June 2006

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8:00 AM-4:30 PM

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County Director:

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Riverside-San Diego Counties

FSA NEWS

Signup For The Milk Income Loss Contract Extension (MILCX) Program Continues

The initial sign-up period for the Milk Income Loss Contract Extension (MILCX) program ended May 17, 2006. The extended signup phase began May 18 and ends September 30, 2007. MILCX allows the continuation of financial assistance to dairy operations in connection with production sold in the commercial market when domestic prices fall below a specified level. Dairy operations that submit a MILCX for benefits during the extended signup phase can select as the MILCX production start month either the month the MILCX is submitted or from the remaining months in the fiscal year for which the payment rate is not known, and according to the start month selection process.



MILCX payments will occur in months when the price of Class I milk in Boston under the Northeast Milk Marketing Order falls below \$16.94 per hundredweight (cwt). Payment rates will be 34% of the difference between \$16.94 and the Boston Class I price for that month. Payments are calculated by multiplying the applicable month's payment rate times the quantity of eligible production for that month. Monthly payment rates can be found on our Price Support website located at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/psd>. The maximum quantity of eligible production for payment per dairy operation is 2.4 million lbs. (24,000 cwt.) per fiscal year. Payments will not be issued for months during which the Class I price is \$16.94 or higher.

To apply for the MILCX program, a producer must submit a CCC-580X form to their local FSA office. A separate CCC-580X form must be filed for each dairy operation that produced and commercially marketed milk during the authorized program period.

2006 Acreage Reporting Deadline

Filing an accurate and timely acreage report for all crops/commodities and land uses can prevent loss of benefits for programs listed in the following table. The acreage reporting deadline for small grains was **April 30, 2006**. The deadline for hay, corn, soybeans, fruits, vegetables and all other crops is **July 15, 2006**.

Benefit	Ac. Report Requirement	Reason for Requirement
Loans & LDP's	All cropland on the farm	Needed to determine reasonableness of claimed production. Required by FSRIA of 2002
DCP	All cropland on the farm	Required by FSRIA of 2002
NAP	Crop acreage or commodity for which NAP benefits may be requested	Needed to establish eligibility of the crop or commodity and producer for NAP benefits

County Committee Nominations & Elections

The election of responsible agricultural producers to FSA county committees (COC) is important to ALL farmers and ranchers with large or small operations. It is crucial that every eligible producer take part in this election because COC's are a direct link between the farm community and USDA. Committee members are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level and work to make FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers.

This year's committee elections will be held in Local Administrative Areas #2 (Coachella Valley) and #4 (all of San Diego County). Nominations will be accepted through August 1, 2006 for eligible candidates to serve on FSA's COC. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as a candidate. In addition, organizations representing socially disadvantaged (minorities and women) farmers and ranchers may nominate candidates. To hold office as an FSA COC member, a person must meet the following basic eligibility requirements:

1. Participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA.
2. Be eligible to vote in a county committee election.
3. Reside in the LAA in which the person is a candidate (in some cases this requirement may be waived).

Agricultural producers of legal voting age can vote if they participate or cooperate in any FSA program. Check with your local FSA office for voting requirements and eligibility if uncertain about your eligibility to vote. A nomination form is enclosed for convenience and is also available in a Spanish version. The form must be signed by the nominee and includes a statement that the nominee agrees to serve if elected. All nomination forms for the 2006 election must be received in the county FSA office or postmarked by August 1. Eligible members of socially disadvantaged groups are strongly urged to participate. For more information on the nomination & election process for this year's elections contact this office or visit the following website: www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/elections.

Dates to Remember	
July 04, 2006	HOLIDAY – Office Closed
July 15, 2006	Acreage Reporting deadline for all crops other than Small Grains
July 25, 2006	Next COC Meeting-Subject to change
August 1, 2006	Deadline to submit COC nomination forms
Sept. 30, 2007	Extended MILC Extension Program Signup Deadline

ACCOMMODATION TO FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS - Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impaired, or hearing impairment. If accommodations are required, please call our office at (760) 347-3675 Ext.2.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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